

Project description – Direct Observation Survey of Child Restraint Device Use and Misuse

Please reference “Overview of OHSP competitive grant award process” on the Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) web site (<http://www.michigan.gov/ohsp>) for an explanation of the process.

Background

Traffic crashes are the number one cause of death amongst children ages one to four. To reduce these deaths, Michigan has had a mandatory child restraint use law since 1982. Child restraint devices (CRDs) provide an effective means of reducing trauma to young vehicle occupants in the event of a crash.

OHSP most recently funded a survey of CRD use and misuse in 2007 and may continue to conduct surveys on a biennial basis. A new survey will update and expand the state of child passenger safety knowledge in Michigan.

Purpose

The grantee will design and conduct a direct observation survey of CRD use and misuse in Michigan, report the results, and provide recommendations based on these results.

Deliverables

The grantee shall provide OHSP with a draft report by August 30, 2009. Following OHSP review, the final report shall be due by September 30, 2009 (20 print copies and an electronic copy).

The report shall include the statewide rate of CRD use; the amount, degree, and kind of misuse; demographics related to variable use and misuse of CRD; and recommendations for improving CRD use in Michigan.

Additional specifications

For reference, a previous survey report can be found at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/msp/CRD_Use_and_Misuse_FINAL_REPORT_213982_7.pdf

The survey sample should, as closely as possible, represent the population of Michigan vehicles and children in vehicles, with accommodations to reduce error while surveying economically. OHSP expects differences in proposed survey methodologies, so explanation of why the proposed methodology is best will assist the award committee in making a decision.

Parent demographics will also be helpful in developing recommendations to improve CRD use.

The expectation is that observations will take place during the latter half of FY2009 (April-August). Observation scheduling is flexible. Grant activity may be combined with other projects to create efficiencies. Reporting dates are not flexible unless the grantee wishes to report early.

This project is unlikely to be repeated in FY2010 but may be repeated in FY2011. If so, the grantee for this project would be the presumptive grantee for the follow-up.

The organization awarded the grant must agree to abide by the OHSP “Grant Management Requirements,” as posted on the OHSP web site. Following the selection of a successful proposal, the grantee must complete the formal grant application and review process through Michigan’s web-based grant application to finalize grant details. All OHSP grants are administered on a reimbursement basis. All grant-related costs incurred are first paid by the grantee, the grantee bills OHSP, and then OHSP reimburses the grantee. Quarterly progress and financial reports are required, even for quarters with no activity or expenditures.

Funding for this project is contingent upon the availability of U.S. Department of Transportation Highway Safety Funds for fiscal year 2009. Changes in federal plans may lead to changes in OHSP programs requiring reasonable accommodations from grantees to keep existing projects consistent with organizational goals. OHSP appreciates the difficulty of adjusting plans and appreciates grantees' flexibility in adapting projects to evolving conditions.

Due date

All proposals for this project must be received at OHSP by July 7, 2008. Proposals may be submitted electronically in Adobe Acrobat or Microsoft Office format. If submitting paper copies, the candidate must submit five (5) copies.

Contact information

Please direct proposals and any questions about this grant opportunity to:
Piétro Semifero
Office of Highway Safety Planning
4000 Collins Road, P.O. Box 30633
Lansing, MI 48910-8133
(517) 333-5320
semiferp@michigan.gov